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(54) Title: ANTIGENIC POLYPEPTIDES

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a method for the identification of antigenic polypeptides expressed by pathogenic microbes; vaccines comprising said polypeptides; recombinant methods to manufacture said polypeptides; and therapeutic antibodies directed to said polypeptides.

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Antigenic Polypeptides

The invention relates to a method for the identification of antigenic polypeptides expressed by pathogenic microbes; vaccines comprising said polypeptides; 5 recombinant methods to manufacture said polypeptides; and therapeutic antibodies directed to said polypeptides.

Microbial organisms cause a number of fatal or debilitating diseases which affect many millions of people around the world. Currently methods to control microbial 10 organisms include the use of antimicrobial agents (antibiotics) and disinfectants. These have proved to be problematic since exposure to these agents places a significant selection pressure resulting in the creation of resistant microbes which can avoid the effects of the antimicrobial agent(s). For example, recently it has been discovered that microbial organisms have become resistant to triclosan, an agent 15 added to many disinfectants used in households and industrial environments.

An arguably greater problem is the evolution of antibiotic resistant strains of a number of significant pathogenic microbes.

20 For example, and not by way of limitation, it is estimated that there are up to 50 million people world-wide infected with drug resistant tuberculosis (TB) (Figures from the World Health Organisation, 1998). In the past the use of antibiotics to treat TB relied on the administration of single drugs (eg ethionamide) which promoted a relatively high frequency of resistance. For this reason, combinations of drugs are 25 now used to treat tuberculosis. However the fatality rate in cases caused by strains that are resistant to at least one drug used to treat tuberculosis still approaches 50% even when treatment is given. *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, the causative agent of TB, is a slow growing bacteria and takes a long time to kill. Therefore, for a drug combination to be effective a person with TB must take the drug combination daily 30 for at least six months. Accordingly, patients frequently have to take two or more pills daily and this requires a regimented dosage over a relatively long period of

treatment. Many patients take the medications only intermittently and therefore do not finish the full course of therapy to completely eradicate the *M. tuberculosis* infection. Moreover, TB is strongly associated with HIV infection and therefore the establishment of TB is strongly correlated with immunosuppression.

5

Vaccination against TB has been available for many years. The bacillus calmette and guerin (BCG) vaccination has been widely used throughout the world for a long time because it is a safe and inexpensive means to vaccinate large numbers of people who potentially could contract TB. BCG is derived from live, attenuated strains of
10 *Mycobacterium bovis*. However the impact of vaccination on the infectious forms of TB is minimal and BCG has therefore contributed little to the overall control of the disease.

A further example of a pathogenic organism which has developed resistance to
15 antibiotics is *Staphylococcus aureus*. *S.aureus* is a bacterium whose normal habitat is the epithelial lining of the nose in about 20-40% of normal healthy people and is also commonly found on people's skin usually without causing harm. However, in certain circumstances, particularly when skin is damaged, this germ can cause infection. This is a particular problem in hospitals where patients may have surgical
20 procedures and/or be taking immunosuppressive drugs. These patients are much more vulnerable to infection with *S.aureus* because of the treatment they have received. Resistant strains of *S.aureus* have arisen in recent years. Methicillin resistant strains are prevalent and many of these resistant strains are also resistant to several other antibiotics. Currently there is no effective vaccination procedure for *S.*
25 *aureus*. In the US, *S.aureus* infections are the cause of 13% of the two million hospitalised infections each year. This represents 260,000 people with an infection of *S.aureus*, of which 60-80,000 die.

S. aureus is therefore a major human pathogen capable of causing a wide range of
30 life threatening diseases including septicaemia, endocarditis, arthritis and toxic shock. This ability is determined by the versatility of the organism and its arsenal of

components involved in virulence. Pathogenicity is multifactorial and no one component has shown to be responsible for a particular infection, see Projan, S.J. & Novick, R.P. (1997) in *The Staphylococci in Human Disease* (Crossley, K.B. & Archer, G.L., eds.) pp.55-81.

5

At the onset of infection, and as it progresses, the needs and environment of the organism changes and this is mirrored by a corresponding alteration in the virulence determinants which *S. aureus* produces. At the beginning of infection it is important for the pathogen to adhere to host tissues and so a large repertoire of cell surface associated attachment proteins are made. These include collagen-, fibrinogen- and
10 fibronectin-binding proteins. The pathogen also has the ability to evade host defences by the production of factors that reduce phagocytosis or interfere with the ability of the cells to be recognised by circulating antibodies.

15 Often a focus of infection develops as an abscess and the number of organisms increases. *S. aureus* has the ability to monitor its own cell density by the production of a quorum sensing peptide. Accumulation of the peptide, associated with physiological changes brought about by the beginning of starvation of the cells, elicits a switch in virulence determinant production from adhesins to components
20 involved in invasion and tissue penetration. These include a wide range of hemolysins, proteases and other degradative enzymes.

During the process of any infection the virulence determinants made by *S. aureus* are produced in response to environmental and physiological stimuli. These stimuli
25 will be dependent on the niche within the body and will change as the infection progresses. Little is known of the conditions *in vivo* and it is likely that some components are produced solely in this environment. These are therefore potential vaccine components, which could not be discovered by previous techniques.

30

One of the most important developments in recent medical history is the development of vaccines which provide prophylactic protection from a wide variety of pathogenic organisms. Many vaccines are produced by inactivated or attenuated pathogens which are injected into an individual. The immunised individual responds
5 by producing both a humoral (antibody) and cellular (cytolytic T cells, CTL's) response. For example, hepatitis vaccines are made by heat inactivating the virus and treating it with a cross linking agent such as formaldehyde. An example of an attenuated pathogen useful as a vaccine is represented by polio vaccines which are produced by attenuating a live pathogen.

10

However the use of attenuated organisms in vaccines for certain diseases is problematic due to the lack of knowledge regarding the pathology of the condition and the nature of the attenuation. For certain viral agents this is a particular problem since viruses, in particular retroviruses, have an error prone replication cycle which
15 results viable mutations in the genes which comprise the virus. This can result in alterations to antigenic determinants which have previously been used as vaccines. An alternative to the use of inactivated or attenuated pathogens is the identification of pathogen epitopes to which the immune system is particularly sensitive. In this regard many pathogenic toxins produced by pathogenic organisms during an
20 infection are particularly useful in the development of vaccines which protect the individual from a particular pathogenic organism.

The development of so-called subunit vaccines (vaccines in which the immunogen is a fragment or subunit of a protein or complex expressed by a particular pathogenic
25 organism) has been the focus of considerable medical research. The need to identify candidate molecules useful in the development of subunit vaccines is apparent not least because conventional chemotherapeutic approaches to the control of pathogenic organisms has more recently been stymied by the development of antibiotic resistance. A number of methods have been developed to identify potential antigenic
30 polypeptides which can be used as a vaccine. One such method is disclosed herein.

It has been known for many years that tumour cells produce a number of tumour cell specific antigens, some of which are presented at the tumour cell surface. The immune system recognises these antigens as foreign thereby resulting in the production of antibodies to self antigens, so called autoantibodies or autologous antisera.

One such technique is Serological identification of antigens by recombinant Expression Cloning, abbreviated to SEREX.

Typically, the technique involves the extraction of RNA from tumour tissue followed by the selective enrichment of mRNA from the isolated total RNA. The mRNA is reverse transcribed into cDNA using viral reverse transcriptase. The cDNA thus synthesised is subcloned into an expression vector and transformed into an appropriate bacterial strain. The transformed bacteria are plated onto a suitable nutrient agar and under appropriate growth conditions the subcloned cDNA is expressed from the expression vector in the bacterial cell. The cells are lysed naturally by the use of phage based expression vectors, for example λ phage or phagemid based vectors, which through their lytic cycle cause cell lysis. The released polypeptides are transferred to a suitable membrane support (i.e. nitrocellulose, nylon) and exposed to autologous antisera from the patient from which the tumour tissue was originally isolated. The immunoscreening methodology allows the identification of genes that are over expressed or inappropriately expressed in a selected tumour tissue from a patient.

We have exploited this technique to identify antigenic polypeptides expressed by pathogenic organisms during an infection. Autologous antisera produced during the infection is used to screen an expression library created from genomic DNA to identify and clone antigens.

In its broadest aspect the invention relates to the identification of antigenic polypeptides expressed during an infection by a pathogenic microbe.

According to a first aspect of the invention there is provided a method to identify
5 antigenic polypeptides comprising:

- (i) providing a nucleic acid library encoding genes or partial gene sequences of a pathogenic organism;
- 10 (ii) transforming/transfecting said library into a host cell;
- (iii) providing conditions conducive to the expression of said transformed/transfected genes or partial gene sequences;
- 15 (iv) contacting the polypeptides expressed by the genes/partial gene sequences with autologous antisera derived from an animal infected with, or has been infected with, said pathogenic organism; and
- (v) purifying the nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide or partial polypeptide
20 binding to said autologous antisera.

In a preferred method of the invention said library comprises genomic DNA of a pathogenic organism.

25 Ideally said pathogenic organism is bacterial.

More preferably still said bacterial organism is selected from the following:

Staphylococcus aureus; *Staphylococcus epidermidis*; *Enterococcus faecalis*;
Mycobacterium tuberculosis; *Streptococcus group B*; *Streptococcus pneumoniae*;
30 *Helicobacter pylori*; *Neisseria gonorrhea*; *Streptococcus group A*; *Borrelia*

burgdorferi; *Coccidioides immitis*; *Histoplasma sapsulatum*; *Neisseria meningitidis* type B; *Shigella flexneri*; *Escherichia coli*; *Haemophilus influenzae*.

Preferably still said pathogenic organism is of the genus *Staphylococcus* spp. Ideally
5 organism is *Staphylococcus aureus* or *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

In a further preferred embodiment of the invention said nucleic acid library is a
lambda library, ideally a lambda expression library.

10 According to a second aspect of the invention there is provided a nucleic acid
molecule comprising a DNA sequence selected from:

(i) the DNA sequence as represented in SEQ ID NO's 1 - 13;

15 (ii) DNA sequences which hybridise to the sequence presented in the SEQ ID
No's 1-13 identified in (i) above which encode a polypeptide expressed by a
pathogenic organism and

(iii) DNA sequences which are degenerate as a result of the genetic code to the
20 DNA sequences defined in (i) and (ii).

In a yet still further preferred embodiment of the invention said nucleic acid molecule
is genomic DNA.

25

In a preferred embodiment of the invention there is provided an isolated nucleic acid
molecule which anneals under stringent hybridisation conditions to the sequences
presented in SEQ ID NO's 1- 13.

30 Stringent hybridisation/washing conditions are well known in the art. For example,
nucleic acid hybrids that are stable after washing in 0.1xSSC, 0.1% SDS at 60°C. It

is well known in the art that optimal hybridisation conditions can be calculated if the sequences of the nucleic acid is known. For example, hybridisation conditions can be determined by the GC content of the nucleic acid subject to hybridisation. Please see Sambrook *et al* (1989) Molecular Cloning; A Laboratory Approach. A common
5 formula for calculating the stringency conditions required to achieve hybridisation between nucleic acid molecules of a specified homology is:

$$T_m = 81.5^{\circ}C + 16.6 \log [Na^+] + 0.41[\% G + C] - 0.63 (\% \text{formamide}).$$

10 According to a third aspect of the invention there is provided at least one polypeptide identified by the method according to the invention.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention, said polypeptide is associated with infective pathogenicity of an organism according to any previous aspect or
15 embodiment of the invention.

More preferably still said polypeptide is at least one, or part of SEQ ID NO's: 14- 19.

According to a fourth aspect of the invention there is provided a nucleic acid
20 molecule characterised in that said nucleic acid molecule is part of a vector adapted to facilitate recombinant expression of the polypeptide encoded by said nucleic acid molecule.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention said vector is an expression vector
25 adapted for prokaryotic gene expression. Alternatively said expression vector is adapted for eukaryotic gene expression.

Typically said adaptation includes, by example and not by way of limitation, the provision of transcription control sequences (promoter sequences) which mediate cell
30 specific expression. These promoter sequences may be cell specific, inducible or constitutive.

- Promoter is an art recognised term and, for the sake of clarity, includes the following features which are provided by example only, and not by way of limitation. Enhancer elements are *cis* acting nucleic acid sequences often found 5' to the transcription initiation site of a gene (enhancers can also be found 3' to a gene sequence or even located in intronic sequences and is therefore position independent). Enhancers function to increase the rate of transcription of the gene to which the enhancer is linked. Enhancer activity is responsive to *trans* acting transcription factors (polypeptides) which have been shown to bind specifically to enhancer elements. The binding/activity of transcription factors (please see Eukaryotic Transcription Factors, by David S Latchman, Academic Press Ltd, San Diego) is responsive to a number of environmental cues which include, by example and not by way of limitation, intermediary metabolites (eg glucose, lipids), environmental effectors (eg light, heat,).
- Promoter elements also include so called TATA box and RNA polymerase initiation selection (RIS) sequences which function to select a site of transcription initiation. These sequences also bind polypeptides which function, *inter alia*, to facilitate transcription initiation selection by RNA polymerase.
- Adaptations also include the provision of selectable markers and autonomous replication sequences which both facilitate the maintenance of said vector in either the eukaryotic cell or prokaryotic host. Vectors which are maintained autonomously are referred to as episomal vectors.
- Adaptations which facilitate the expression of vector encoded genes include the provision of transcription termination/polyadenylation sequences. This also includes the provision of internal ribosome entry sites (IRES) which function to maximise expression of vector encoded genes arranged in bicistronic or multi-cistronic expression cassettes.

These adaptations are well known in the art. There is a significant amount of published literature with respect to expression vector construction and recombinant DNA techniques in general. Please see, Sambrook et al (1989) Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual, Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory, Cold Spring Harbour, NY and
5 references therein; Marston, F (1987) DNA Cloning Techniques: A Practical Approach Vol III IRL Press, Oxford UK; DNA Cloning: F M Ausubel et al, Current Protocols in Molecular Biology, John Wiley & Sons, Inc.(1994).

10 According to yet a further aspect of the invention there is provided a method for the production of the polypeptides according to any previous aspect or embodiment of the invention comprising:

(i) providing a cell transformed/transfected with a vector according to the
15 invention;

(ii) growing said cell in conditions conducive to the manufacture of said polypeptides; and

20 (iii) purifying said polypeptide from said cell, or its growth environment.

In a preferred method of the invention said vector encodes, and thus said recombinant polypeptide is provided with, a secretion signal to facilitate purification of said polypeptide.

25

According to a fifth aspect of the invention there is provided a cell or cell-line transformed or transfected with the vector according to the invention.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention said cell is a prokaryotic cell.

30 Alternatively said cell is a eukaryotic cell selected from: fungal, insect, amphibian; mammalian; plant.

According to a yet further aspect of the invention there is provided a vaccine comprising at least one polypeptide according to the invention.

- 5 Ideally said vaccine further comprises a carrier and/or adjuvant.

The terms adjuvant and carrier are construed in the following manner. Some polypeptide or peptide antigens contain B-cell epitopes but no T cell epitopes. Immune responses can be greatly enhanced by the inclusion of a T cell epitope in the
10 polypeptide/peptide or by the conjugation of the polypeptide/peptide to an immunogenic carrier protein such as key hole limpet haemocyanin or tetanus toxoid which contain multiple T cell epitopes. The conjugate is taken up by antigen presenting cells, processed and presented by human leukocyte antigens (HLA's) class II molecules. This allows T cell help to be given by T cell's specific for carrier
15 derived epitopes to the B cell which is specific for the original antigenic polypeptide/peptide. This can lead to increase in antibody production, secretion and isotype switching.

An adjuvant is a substance or procedure which augments specific immune responses
20 to antigens by modulating the activity of immune cells. Examples of adjuvants include, by example only, agonsitic antibodies to co-stimulatory molecules, Freund's adjuvant, muramyl dipeptides, liposomes. An adjuvant is therefore an immunomodulator. A carrier is an immunogenic molecule which, when bound to a second molecule augments immune responses to the latter.

25

In yet a further aspect of the invention there is provided a method to immunise an animal against a pathogenic microbe comprising administering to said animal at least one polypeptide, or part thereof, according to the invention or the vaccine according to the invention.

30

In a preferred method of the invention said animal is human.

Preferably the vaccine, or antigenic polypeptide, can be delivered by direct injection either intravenously, intramuscularly, subcutaneously. Further still, the vaccine or antigenic polypeptide, may be taken orally.

Preferably the vaccine is against the bacterial species *Staphylococcus aureus*.

- 5 The vaccine may also be against the bacterial species *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

It will also be apparent that vaccines or antigenic polypeptides are effective at preventing or alleviating conditions in animals other than humans, for example and not by way of limitation, family pets, livestock, horses.

- 10 According to a further aspect of the invention there is provided an antibody, or at least an effective binding part thereof, which binds at least one polypeptide according to the invention.

In a preferred embodiment of the invention said antibody is a polyclonal or monoclonal antibody wherein said antibody is specific to said polypeptide.

15

Alternatively, said antibody is a chimeric antibody produced by recombinant methods to contain the variable region of said antibody with an invariant or constant region of a human antibody.

- 20 In a further alternative embodiment of the invention, said antibody is humanised by recombinant methods to combine the complementarity determining regions of said antibody with both the constant (C) regions and the framework regions from the variable (V) regions of a human antibody.

- 25 Preferably said antibody is provided with a marker including a conventional label or tag, for example a radioactive and/or fluorescent and/or epitope label or tag.

Preferably said humanised monoclonal antibody to said polypeptide is produced as a fusion polypeptide in an expression vector suitably adapted for transfection or transformation of prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells.

Antibodies, also known as immunoglobulins, are protein molecules which have specificity for foreign molecules (antigens). Immunoglobulins (Ig) are a class of structurally related proteins consisting of two pairs of polypeptide chains, one pair of
5 light (L) (low molecular weight) chain (κ or λ), and one pair of heavy (H) chains (γ , α , μ , δ and ϵ), all four linked together by disulphide bonds. Both H and L chains have regions that contribute to the binding of antigen and that are highly variable from one Ig molecule to another. In addition, H and L chains contain regions that are non-variable or constant.

10

The L chains consist of two domains. The carboxy-terminal domain is essentially identical among L chains of a given type and is referred to as the "constant" (C) region. The amino terminal domain varies from L chain to L chain and contributes to the binding site of the antibody. Because of its variability, it is referred to as the
15 "variable" (V) region.

The H chains of Ig molecules are of several classes, α , μ , σ , α , and γ (of which there are several sub-classes). An assembled Ig molecule consisting of one or more units of two identical H and L chains, derives its name from the H chain that it possesses.
20 Thus, there are five Ig isotypes: IgA, IgM, IgD, IgE and IgG (with four sub-classes based on the differences in the H chains, i.e., IgG1, IgG2, IgG3 and IgG4). Further detail regarding antibody structure and their various functions can be found in, Using Antibodies: A laboratory manual, Cold Spring Harbour Laboratory Press.

25 Chimeric antibodies are recombinant antibodies in which all of the V-regions of a mouse or rat antibody are combined with human antibody C-regions. Humanised antibodies are recombinant hybrid antibodies which fuse the complementarity determining regions from a rodent antibody V-region with the framework regions from the human antibody V-regions. The C-regions from the human antibody are also
30 used. The complementarity determining regions (CDRs) are the regions within the N-terminal domain of both the heavy and light chain of the antibody to where the

majority of the variation of the V-region is restricted. These regions form loops at the surface of the antibody molecule. These loops provide the binding surface between the antibody and antigen.

- 5 Antibodies from non-human animals provoke an immune response to the foreign antibody and its removal from the circulation. Both chimeric and humanised antibodies have reduced antigenicity when injected to a human subject because there is a reduced amount of rodent (i.e. foreign) antibody within the recombinant hybrid antibody, while the human antibody regions do not illicit an immune response. This
10 results in a weaker immune response and a decrease in the clearance of the antibody. This is clearly desirable when using therapeutic antibodies in the treatment of human diseases. Humanised antibodies are designed to have less "foreign" antibody regions and are therefore thought to be less immunogenic than chimeric antibodies.
- 15 In another aspect of the invention there is provided a vector which is adapted for the expression of the humanised or chimeric antibodies according to the invention.

In a yet further aspect of the invention, there is provided a cell or cell line which has been transformed or transfected with the vector encoding the humanised or chimeric
20 antibody according to the invention.

In a yet further aspect of the invention there is provided a method for the production of the humanised or chimeric antibody according to the invention comprising :

- 25 (i) providing a cell transformed or transfected with a vector which comprises a nucleic acid molecule encoding the humanised or chimeric antibody according to the invention;
- (ii) growing said cell in conditions conducive to the manufacture of said antibody; and
- (iii) purifying said antibody from said cell, or its growth environment.

30

In a yet further aspect of the invention there is provided a hybridoma cell line which produces a monoclonal antibody as hereinbefore described.

5 In a further aspect of the invention there is provided a method of producing monoclonal antibodies according to the invention using hybridoma cell lines according to the invention.

In a further aspect of the invention there is provided a method for preparing a hybridoma cell-line producing monoclonal antibodies according to the invention
10 comprising the steps of:

- i) immunising an immunocompetent mammal with an immunogen comprising at least one polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as represented in SEQ. ID No 14-19, or fragments thereof;
- 15 ii) fusing lymphocytes of the immunised immunocompetent mammal with myeloma cells to form hybridoma cells;
- iii) screening monoclonal antibodies produced by the hybridoma cells of step (ii) for binding activity to the amino acid sequences of (i);
- iv) culturing the hybridoma cells to proliferate and/or to secrete said monoclonal antibody; and
- 20 v) recovering the monoclonal antibody from the culture supernatant.

Preferably, the said immunocompetent mammal is a mouse. Alternatively, said immunocompetent mammal is a rat.

25 The production of monoclonal antibodies using hybridoma cells is well-known in the art. The methods used to produce monoclonal antibodies are disclosed by Kohler and Milstein in *Nature* 256, 495-497 (1975) and also by Donillard and Hoffman, "Basic Facts about Hybridomas" in *Compendium of Immunology V.II* ed. by Schwartz, 1981, which are incorporated by reference.

30

In a further aspect of the invention there is provided the use of the antibodies for manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of *Staphylococcus aureus*-associated septicaemia, food-poisoning or skin disorders.

- 5 In another aspect of the invention there is provided the use of the antibodies according to the invention for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*-associated septicaemia, peritonitis or endocarditis.

- It will be apparent that the polypeptides identified by the method according to the invention will facilitate the production of therapeutic antibodies to a range of diseases resulting from pathogenic infection, for example, septicaemia; tuberculosis; bacteria-associated food poisoning; blood infections; peritonitis; endocarditis; sepsis; meningitis; pneumonia; stomach ulcers; gonorrhoea; strep throat; streptococcal-associated toxic shock; necrotizing fasciitis; impetigo; histoplasmosis; Lyme disease; gastro-enteritis; dysentery; shigellosis.

As has already been stated earlier, microbial organisms cause a wide variety of diseases. Listed below, and not by way of limitation, are a number of micro-organisms and some of the diseases they cause.

Micro-organism	Disease(s) caused
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Sepsis, food poisoning, septicaemia,
<i>Staphylococcus epidermidis</i>	Peritonitis, septicaemia, endocarditis, other hospital-associated diseases
<i>Enterococcus faecalis</i>	Endocarditis, cystitis, wound infections
<i>Mycobacterium tuberculosis</i>	Tuberculosis
<i>Streptococcus group B</i>	Sepsis, meningitis, pneumonia, bladder infections
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	Pneumonia, meningitis
<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	Stomach ulcers
<i>Neisseria gonorrhoea</i>	Gonorrhoea
<i>Streptococcus group A</i>	Strep throat, necrotizing fasciitis, impetigo, Strep. Toxic shock syndrome
<i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i>	Lyme disease
<i>Coccidioides immitis</i>	Pneumonia

<i>Histoplasma sapsulatum</i>	Histoplasmosis, pneumonia
<i>Neisseria meningitidis type B</i>	Meningitis
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	Gastro-enteritis, shigellosis, dysentery
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	Food-poisoning, gastro-enteritis
<i>Haemophilus influenzae</i>	Meningitis, pneumonia, arthritis, cellulitis

An embodiment of the invention will now be described by example only and with
 5 reference to the following materials, methods and SEQ ID NO's 1-19 and Table 1.

Materials and Methods

A λ ZAP Express library of genomic DNA of *S. aureus* 8325/4 was used. It contains
 10 fragments of 2-10kb from a partial *Sau3A* digest of total genomic DNA. This was
 cloned into the *Bam*HI site of the vector. The library contains >10x coverage of the
 genome. The library was probed by plaque lift using an initial screen of
 approximately 20,000 plaque forming units on a 9cm diameter Petri dish. The
 plating cells used, their treatment, the plating procedure and buffers were exactly as
 15 described in the manufacturers handbook (Stratagene). Plating cells, *Escherichia*
coli XLI-Blue MRF', were infected with phage and plated in 3 ml top LB agar
 containing 10 mM MgSO₄ onto LB plates containing 10 mM MgSO₄. The plates
 were then incubated at 42°C for 4 hr. An 8.5cm diameter nitrocellulose filter disc
 (previously soaked in 10 mM IPTG and air-dried) was placed on each plate and its
 20 location marked. The plates were then incubated for a further 3.5 hr at 37°C. The
 filters were removed and washed in TBST buffer before blocking overnight at 4°C in
 TBST containing 6% w/v dried skimmed milk and 3% v/v pig serum (Sigma). The
 serum was used to block any Protein A clones on the filter. The filters are then
 treated with patient serum (1/5000 dilution) in blocking solution for 90 min at room
 25 temperature. Antisera have been obtained from patients convalescing from major *S.*
aureus infections. The filters are then washed for 3x10 min in TBST. Secondary
 antibody used was goat anti-human whole IgG alkaline phosphatase linked (Sigma)

at 1/30,000 dilution in blocking solution at room temperature for 30 min. The filters were then washed as above and developed using a standard colorimetric procedure.

- 5 Cross-reactive plaques were located on the agar plates and cored into 0.2ml phage buffer with 0.02 ml chloroform. The titre of each core stock was determined and the phage plated at approximately 200 plaques per plate. A plaque lift and screen was performed as above to give single, pure cross-reactive clones.

- 10 The pure clones were then spotted (1µl) onto plates to give a confluent plaque of 0.5cm diameter. 30 individual clones can be spotted on each plate. A plaque lift is performed and the filter probed with an appropriate sera. In this way clones can be tested for their cross-reactivity with other patient sera, non-infected donor sera and anti-Protein A sera.

- 15 Individual clones were then excised to give a phagemid in *E. coli* XL0LR using the manufacturers protocol (Stratagene). A plasmid miniprep of each was carried out and the size of the genomic insert determined by restriction mapping. The identity of the cloned insert was determined by DNA sequencing using primers against vector sequence, which allows sequencing across the insert. By comparison of the derived
20 sequence against the public domain databases the nature of the cloned gene(s) can be determined.

Hybridisation Solutions/Conditions

- 25 Typically, hybridisation conditions uses 4 – 6 x SSPE (20x SSPE contains 175.3g NaCl, 88.2g NaH₂PO₄ H₂O and 7.4g EDTA dissolved to 1 litre and the pH adjusted to 7.4); 5-10x Denhardts solution (50x Denhardts solution contains 5g Ficoll (type 400, Pharmacia), 5g polyvinylpyrrolidone abd 5g bovine serum albumen; 100µg-
1.0mg/ml sonicated salmon/herring DNA; 0.1-1.0% sodium dodecyl sulphate;
30 optionally 40-60% deionised formamide. Hybridisation temperature will vary

depending on the GC content of the nucleic acid target sequence but will typically be between 42° - 65° C.

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10

Staphylococcus aureus clones identified in human sera screen

TABLE 1

Patient Sera	Clone	Encoded proteins	Locus number
A	1	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	3	Atl	2
A	4	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	5	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	7	Novel putative protease (ORF1 novel antigen like)	7
A	8	Novel nuclease (YisK)	5
A	9	Novel autolysin	6
A	10	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	11	Atl	2
A	14	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	15	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	S1	Novel putative protease (ORF1 novel antigen like)	7
A	S5	Novel surface protein	12
A	S17	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	S18	Novel putative protease (ORF1 novel antigen like)	7
A	S19	Novel autolysin	6
A	S20	Novel surface protein/toxin	13
A	S21	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	S25	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
A	S29	Fibrinogen binding protein)	3
A	S44	Novel surface protein	12
A	S45	Atl	2
A	S55	Atl	2
A	S64	Atl	2
A	S66	Atl	2
B	2	Novel exotoxin (exotoxin 2 like)	8
C	1	Coagulase	4
C	2	Coagulase	4
C	3	Coagulase	4
C	4	Coagulase	4
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C	14	Coagulase	4
C	15	Coagulase	4
C	19	Coagulase	4
C	20	Coagulase	4
C	25	Coagulase	4
E	6	Novel surface proteins	9/10
E	7	Novel surface proteins	9/10
E	11	γ hemolysin B and C subunit	1
F	1	Novel exotoxin (exotoxin 2 like)	8
F	2	Novel exotoxin (exotoxin 2 like)	8
F	3	Novel exotoxin (exotoxin 2 like)	8
F	4	Novel exotoxin (exotoxin 2 like)	8
F	5	Novel hemolysin (Yjfd)	11

CLAIMS

1. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a DNA sequence selected from
5 the group consisting of:

(i) the DNA sequence as represented in SEQ ID NO's 1 - 13;

(ii) DNA sequences which hybridise to the sequence presented in the SEQ
10 ID No's 1-13 identified in (i) above and which encode a polypeptide
expressed by a pathogenic organism; and

(iii) DNA sequences which are degenerate as a result of the genetic code to
the DNA sequences defined in (i) and (ii).

15

2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 which is genomic
DNA.

3. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or 2 which anneals
20 under stringent hybridisation conditions to the sequences presented in SEQ ID
NO's 1-13.

4. A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule according to any of claims 1-3.

25 5. A vector according to claim 4 wherein the vector is adapted for recombinant
expression of the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid.

6. A vector according to claim 4 or 5 wherein said vector is an expression vector
adapted for prokaryotic gene expression.

30

7. A vector according to claim 4 or 5 wherein said vector is an expression
vector adapted for eukaryotic gene expression.

8. A vector according to any of claims 4 to 7 wherein the adaptation of the vector includes the provision of promoter sequences.
- 5 9. A vector according to claim 8 wherein the promoter sequences provide for cell specific, inducible or constitutive expression.
10. A method to identify antigenic polypeptides comprising:
- 10 (i) providing a nucleic acid library encoding genes or partial gene sequences of a pathogenic organism;
- (ii) transforming/transfecting said library into a host cell;
- 15 (iii) contacting the polypeptides expressed by the genes/partial gene sequences with autologous antisera derived from an animal infected with, or has been infected with, said pathogenic organism; and
- (iv) purifying the nucleic acid encoding the polypeptide or partial polypeptide binding to said autologous antisera.
- 20 11. A method according to claim 10 wherein said library comprises genomic DNA of a pathogenic organism.
- 25 12. A method according to claim 10 or claim 11 wherein said pathogenic organism is bacterial.
13. A method according to any of claims 10 to 12 wherein said bacterial organism is selected from the following: *Staphylococcus aureus*; *Staphylococcus epidermidis*; *Enterococcus faecalis*; *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; *Streptococcus group B*; *Streptococcus pneumoniae*; *Helicobacter pylori*;
- 30

Neisseria gonorrhea; *Streptococcus* group A; *Borrelia burgdorferi*;
Coccidioides immitis; *Histoplasma sapsulatum*; *Neisseria meningitidis* type B;
Shigella flexneri; *Escherichia coli*; *Haemophilus influenzae*

- 5 14. A method according to any of claim 13 wherein said pathogenic organism is
Staphylococcus aureus.
15. A method according to any of claim 13 wherein said pathogenic organism is
Staphylococcus epidermidis. (
- 10 16. A method according to any of claims 10 to 15 wherein said nucleic acid
library is a lambda library.
17. A polypeptide identified by the method according to any of claims 10 to 16.
- 15 18. A polypeptide according to claim 17 which is selected from the group
consisting of SEQ ID NO's: 14-19.
19. A method for the production of the polypeptides according to any of claims
20 17 or 18 comprising:
- (i) providing a cell transformed/transfected with a vector according to
any of claims 4 to 9 and with cell culture conditions; and
- (ii) purifying said polypeptide from said cell, or its growth environment.
- 25 20. A method according to claim 19 wherein said vector encodes, and thus said
recombinant polypeptide is provided with, a secretion signal to facilitate
purification of said polypeptide.
21. A cell transformed or transfected with the vector according to any of claims 4
30 to 9.

22. A cell according to claim 21 which is a prokaryotic cell.
23. A cell according to claim 21 which is a eukaryotic cell selected from the group consisting of: fungal cell, insect cell, amphibian cell; mammalian cell;
5 plant cell.
24. A vaccine comprising at least one polypeptide according to claims 16 or 17.
25. A vaccine according to claim 24 which further comprises a carrier and/or
10 adjuvant.
26. A method to immunise an animal against a pathogenic microbe comprising administering to the animal at least one polypeptide, or part thereof, according to any previous claim or the vaccine of any previous claim.
15
27. A method according to claim 26 wherein the animal is human.
28. A method according to claim 26 or 27 wherein the vaccine, or antigenic polypeptide, is delivered by direct injection either intravenously, intramuscularly or
20 subcutaneously.
29. A method according to claim 25 or 26 wherein the vaccine or antigenic polypeptide is taken orally.
30. A method according to any of claims 26 to 29 wherein the vaccine is against the bacterial genus *Staphylococcus* spp.
- 25 31. A method according to claim 30 wherein the vaccine is against the bacterial species *Staphylococcus aureus*.
32. A method according to claim 30 wherein the vaccine is against the bacterial species *Staphylococcus epidermidis*.

33. An antibody, or at least an effective part thereof, which binds at least with a selective part of the polypeptide according to claim 16 or 17.
34. An antibody according to claim 33 which is a monoclonal antibody.
- 5 35. An antibody according to claim 33 or 34 wherein said effective part comprises FAb fragments.
36. An antibody according to any of claims 33 to 35 which is a chimeric
10 antibody.
37. An antibody according to any of claims 33 to 35 which is a humanised antibody.
- 15 38. An antibody according to any of claims 33 to 37 wherein said antibody is provided with a marker, label or tag.
39. An antibody according to claim 38 wherein said antibody is provided with a marker selected from a group consisting of: a radioactive label, a fluorescent
20 label; an epitope tag.
40. An antibody according to any of claims 34 to 39 which is produced as a fusion polypeptide.
- 25 41. A vector which is adapted for the expression of the antibodies according to any of claims 34-40.
42. A cell which has been transformed or transfected with the vector according to claim 41.
- 30

43. A method for the production of the antibody according to any of claims 34 or 40 comprising :
- 5 i) providing a cell transformed or transfected with the vector according to claim 41 and with cell culture conditions; and
- ii) purifying said antibody from said cell, or its growth environment.
44. A hybridoma cell line which produces an antibody according to claim 34.
45. Use of the antibodies according to any of claims 33 to 40 for the manufacture
10 of a medicament for the treatment of *Staphylococcus aureus*-associated septicaemia, food-poisoning or skin disorders.
46. Use of the antibodies according to any of claims 33 to 40 for the manufacture
15 of a medicament for the treatment of *Staphylococcus epidermidis*-associated septicaemia, peritonitis or endocarditis
47. A method for preparing a hybridoma cell-line producing monoclonal antibodies according to claim 34, comprising the steps of:
- 20 i) immunising an immunocompetent mammal with an immunogen comprising at least one polypeptide having the amino acid sequence as set forward in SEQ ID No: 14-19, or fragments thereof;
- ii) fusing lymphocytes of the immunised immunocompetent mammal with myeloma cells to form hybridoma cells;
- iii) screening monoclonal antibodies produced by the hybridoma cells of
25 step (ii) for binding activity to the amino acid sequences of (i);
- iv) culturing the hybridoma cells to proliferate and/or to secrete said monoclonal antibody; and
- v) recovering the monoclonal antibody from the culture supernatant.
- 30 48. A method according to claim 47, wherein said immunocompetent mammal is a mouse

49. A method according to claim 47, wherein said immunocompetent mammal is
a rat

5

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SEQUENCE LISTING

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 Thr Glu Asn Asn Lys
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 25
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 <211> 157
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 30 <213> Staphylococcus aureus
 <400> 18
 Ser Phe Asn Tyr Ser Lys Ser Ile Ser Tyr Thr Gln Gln Asn Tyr Val
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 35 Ser Glu Val Glu Gln Gln Asn Ser Lys Ser Val Leu Trp Gly Val Lys
 20 25 30
 Ala Asn Ser Phe Ala Thr Glu Ser Gly Gln Lys Ser Ala Phe Asp Ser
 35 40 45
 Asp Leu Phe Val Gly Tyr Lys Pro His Ser Lys Asp Pro Arg Asp Tyr
 50 55 60
 45 Phe Val Pro Asp Ser Glu Leu Pro Pro Leu Val Gln Ser Gly Phe Asn
 65 70 75 80
 Pro Ser Phe Ile Ala Thr Val Ser His Glu Lys Gly Ser Ser Asp Thr
 85 90 95
 50 Ser Glu Phe Glu Ile Thr Tyr Gly Arg Asn Met Asp Val Thr His Ala
 100 105 110
 Ile Lys Arg Ser Thr His Tyr Gly Asn Ser Tyr Leu Asp Gly His Arg
 115 120 125
 Val His Asn Ala Phe Val Asn Arg Asn Tyr Thr Val Lys Tyr Glu Val
 130 135 140
 60 Asn Trp Lys Thr His Glu Ile Lys Val Lys Gly Gln Asn
 145 150 155

<210> 19
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 <213> Staphylococcus aureus

5

<400> 19
 Ile Ile Ala Ile Ile Ile Leu Ile Phe Ile Ser Phe Phe Phe Ser Gly
 1 5 10 15

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Ser Glu Thr Ala Leu Thr Ala Ala Asn Lys Ala Lys Phe Lys Thr Glu
 20 25 30

Ala Asp Lys Gly Asp Lys Lys Ala Lys Gly Ile Val Lys Leu Leu Glu
 35 40 45

15

Lys Pro Ser Glu Phe Ile Thr Thr Ile Leu Ile Gly Asn Asn Val Ala
 50 55 60

20

Asn Ile Leu Leu Pro Thr Leu Val Thr Ile Met Ala Leu Arg Trp Gly
 65 70 75 80

Ile Ser Val Gly Ile Ala Ser Ala Val Leu Thr Val Val Ile Ile Leu
 85 90 95

25

Ile Ser Glu Val Ile Pro Lys Ser Val Ala Ala Thr Phe Pro Asp Lys
 100 105 110

Ile Thr Arg Leu Val Tyr Pro Ile Ile Asn Ile Cys Val Ile Val Phe
 115 120 125

30

Arg Pro Ile Thr Leu Leu Leu Asn Lys Leu Thr Asp Ser Ile Asn Arg
 130 135 140

35

Ser Leu Ser Lys Gly Gln Pro Gln Glu His Gln Phe Ser Lys Glu Glu
 145 150 155 160

Phe Lys Thr Met Leu Ala Ile Ala Gly His Glu Gly Ala Leu Asn Glu
 165 170 175

40

Ile Glu Thr Ser Arg Leu Glu Gly Val Ile Asn Phe Glu Asn Leu Lys
 180 185 190

Val Lys Asp Val Asp Thr Thr Pro Arg Ile Asn Val Thr Ala Phe Ala
 195 200 205

45

Ser Asn Ala Thr Tyr Glu Glu Val Tyr Glu Thr Val Met Asn Lys Pro
 210 215 220

50

Tyr Thr Arg Tyr Pro Val Tyr Glu Gly Asp Ile Asp Asn Ile Ile Gly
 225 230 235 240

Val Phe His Ser Lys Tyr Leu Leu Ala Trp Ser Asn Lys Lys Glu Asn
 245 250 255

55

Gln Ile Thr Asn Tyr Ser Ala Lys Pro Leu Phe Val Asn Glu His Asn
 260 265 270

Lys Ala Glu Trp Val Leu Arg Lys Met Thr Ile Ser Arg Lys His Leu
 275 280 285

60

Ala Ile Val Leu Asp Glu Phe Gly Gly Thr Glu Ala Ile Val Ser His
 290 295 300

Glu Asp Leu Ile Glu Glu Leu Leu Gly Met Glu Ile Glu Asp Glu Met
 305 310 315 320
 5 Asp Lys Lys Glu Lys Glu Lys Leu Ser Gln Gln Gln Ile Gln Phe Gln
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 Gln Arg Lys Asn Arg Asn Val Ser Ile
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 20 Ser Ser Leu Gly Val Ala Ser Val Ala Ile Ser Thr Leu Leu Leu Leu
 20 25 30
 Met Ser Asn Gly Glu Ala Gln Ala Ala Glu Glu Thr Gly Gly Thr
 35 40 45
 25 Asn Thr Glu Ala Gln Pro Lys Thr Glu Ala Val Ala Ser Pro Thr Thr
 50 55 60
 30 Thr Ser Glu Lys Ala Pro Glu Thr Lys Pro Val Ala Asn Ala Val Ser
 65 70 75 80
 Val Ser Asn Lys Glu Val Glu Ala Pro Thr Ser Glu Thr Lys Glu Ala
 85 90 95
 35 Lys Glu Val Lys Glu Val Lys Ala Pro Lys Glu Thr Lys Glu Val Lys
 100 105 110
 Pro Ala Ala Lys Ala Thr Asn Asn Thr Tyr Pro Ile Leu Asn Gln Glu
 115 120 125
 40 Leu Ile Arg Ser Asp
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 45 <210> 21
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 <213> Staphylococcus aureus
 50 <400> 21
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 Ile His Gln Lys Gly Ser Met Arg Ser Asn Asp Asn Gly Asp Asp Met
 20 25 30
 Ser Met Met Val Gly Thr Val Leu Ser Gly Phe Glu Tyr Arg Ala Gln
 35 40 45
 60 Lys Glu Lys Tyr Asp Asn Leu Tyr Lys Phe Phe Lys Glu Asn Glu Lys
 50 55 60
 Lys Tyr Gln Tyr Thr Gly Phe Thr Lys Glu Ala Ile Asn Lys Thr Gln

	65		70		75		80
	Asn Val Gly Tyr Lys	85	Asn Glu Tyr Phe Tyr Ile Thr Tyr Ser Ser Arg	95			
5	Ser Leu Lys Glu Tyr Arg Lys Tyr Tyr Glu Pro Leu Ile Arg Lys Asn	100	105	110			
10	Asp Lys Glu Phe Lys Glu Gly Met Glu Arg Ala Arg Lys Glu Val Asn	115	120	125			
	Tyr Ala Ala Asn Thr Asp Ala Val Ala Thr Leu Phe Ser Thr Lys Lys	130	135	140			
15	Asn Phe Thr Lys Asp Asn Thr Val Asp Asp Val Ile Glu Leu Ser Asp	145	150	155	160		
	Lys Leu Tyr Asn Leu Lys Asn Lys Pro Asp Lys Ser Thr Ile Thr Ile	165	170	175			
20	Gln Ile Gly Lys Pro Thr Ile Asn Thr Lys Lys Ala Phe Tyr Asp Asp	180	185	190			
25	Asn Arg Pro Ile Glu Tyr Gly Val His Ser Lys Asp Glu	195	200	205			
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	Arg Arg Ala Asn Leu Tyr Gly Leu Phe Asn Lys Ala Ile Glu Phe Glu	20	25	30			
40	Asn Ser Ser Phe Arg Gly Leu Tyr Gln Phe Ile Arg Phe Ile Asp Glu	35	40	45			
45	Leu Ile Glu Arg Gly Lys Asp Phe Gly Glu Glu Asn Val Val Gly Pro	50	55	60			
	Asn Asp Asn Val Val Arg Met Met Thr Ile His Ser Ser Lys Gly Leu	65	70	75	80		
50	Glu Phe Pro Phe Val Ile Tyr Ser Gly Leu Ser Lys Asp Phe Asn Lys	85	90	95			
	Arg Asp Leu Lys Gln Pro Val Ile Leu Asn Gln Gln Phe Gly Leu Gly	100	105	110			
55	Met Asp Tyr Phe Asp Val Asp Lys Glu Met Ala Phe Pro Ser Leu Ala	115	120	125			
	Ser Val Ala Tyr Arg Ala Val Ala Glu Lys Glu Leu Val Ser Glu Glu	130	135	140			
60	Met Arg Leu Val Tyr Val Ala Leu Thr Arg Ala Lys Glu Gln Leu Tyr	145	150	155	160		

Leu Ile Gly Arg Val Lys Asn Asp Lys Ser Leu Leu Glu Leu Glu Gln
 165 170 175
 5 Leu Ser Ile Ser Gly Glu His Ile Ala Val Asn Glu Arg Leu Thr Ser
 180 185 190
 Pro Asn Pro Phe His Leu Ile Tyr Ser Ile Leu Ser Lys His Gln Ser
 195 200 205
 10 Ala Ser Ile Pro Asp Asp Leu Lys Phe Glu Lys Asp Ile Ala Gln Ile
 210 215 220
 Glu Asp Ser Ser Arg Pro Asn Val Asn Ile Ser Ile Val Tyr Phe Glu
 225 230 235 240
 15 Asp Val Ser Thr Glu Thr Ile Leu Asp Asn Asp Glu Tyr Arg Ser Val
 245 250 255
 Asn Gln Leu Glu Thr Met Gln Asn Gly Asn Glu Asp Val Lys Ala Gln
 260 265 270
 20 Ile Lys His Gln Leu Asp Tyr Arg Tyr Pro Tyr Val Asn Asp Thr Lys
 275 280 285
 25 Lys Pro Ser Lys Gln Ser Val Ser Glu Leu Lys Arg Gln Tyr Glu Thr
 290 295 300
 Glu Glu Ser Gly Thr Ser Tyr Glu Arg Val Arg Gln Tyr Arg Ile Gly
 305 310 315 320
 30 Phe Ser Thr Tyr Glu Arg Pro Lys Phe Leu Ser Glu Gln Gly Lys Arg
 325 330 335
 Lys Ala Asn Glu Ile Gly Thr Leu Met His Thr Val Met Gln His Leu
 340 345 350
 35 Pro Phe Lys Lys Glu Arg Ile Ser Glu Val Glu Leu His Gln Tyr Ile
 355 360 365
 40 Asp Gly Leu Ile Asp Lys His Ile Ile Glu Ala Asp Ala Lys Lys Asp
 370 375 380
 Ile Arg Met Asp Glu Ile Met Thr Phe Ile Asn Ser Glu Leu Tyr Ser
 385 390 395 400
 45 Ile Ile Ala Glu Ala Glu Gln Val Tyr Arg Glu Leu Pro Phe Val Val
 405 410 415
 Asn Gln Ala Leu Val Asp Gln Leu Pro Gln Gly Asp Glu Asp Val Ser
 420 425 430
 50 Ile Ile Gln Gly Met Ile Asp Leu Ile Phe Val Lys Asp Gly Val His
 435 440 445
 55 Tyr Phe Val Asp Tyr Lys Thr Asp Ala Phe Asn Arg Arg Arg Gly Met
 450 455 460
 Thr Asp Glu Glu Ile Gly Thr Gln Leu Lys Asn Lys Tyr Lys Ile Gln
 465 470 475 480
 60 Met Lys Tyr Tyr Gln Asn Thr Leu Gln Thr Ile Leu Asn Lys Glu Val
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Lys Gly Tyr Leu Tyr Phe Phe Lys Phe Gly Thr Leu Gln Leu
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5 <210> 23
 <211> 124
 <212> PRT
 <213> Staphylococcus aureus

10 <400> 23
 Met Lys Phe Leu Ser Phe Lys Tyr Asn Asp Lys Thr Ser Tyr Gly Val
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 Asp Phe Ala Glu Gly Asp Phe His Pro Lys Thr Leu Leu Ala Gly Leu
 35 40 45
 20 Gln Gln Asn His Thr Leu Asp Phe Gln Glu Gln Val Arg Lys Ala Val
 50 55 60
 Val Ala Ala Glu Asp Ser Gly Lys Ala Glu Asp Tyr Lys Ile Ser Phe
 65 70 75 80
 25 Asn Asp Ile Glu Phe Leu Pro Pro Val Thr Pro Pro Asn Asn Val Ile
 85 90 95
 30 Ala Phe Gly Arg Asn Tyr Lys Asp His Ala Asn Glu Leu Asn His Glu
 100 105 110
 Val Glu Lys Leu Tyr Val Phe Thr Lys Ala Ala Ser
 115 120

35 <210> 24
 <211> 180
 <212> PRT
 <213> Staphylococcus aureus

40 <400> 24
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 20 25 30
 Asn Gly Glu Tyr Asn Asn Gly Gly Phe Tyr Lys Val Lys Lys Ile Val
 35 40 45
 50 Arg Tyr Ser Gly Gln Glu Asp Ile Ala Ile Leu His Val Glu Asp Lys
 50 55 60
 55 Ala Val His Pro Lys Asn Arg Asn Phe Lys Asp Tyr Thr Gly Ile Leu
 65 70 75 80
 Lys Ile Ala Ser Glu Ala Lys Glu Asn Glu Arg Ile Ser Ile Val Gly
 85 90 95
 60 Tyr Pro Glu Pro Tyr Ile Asn Lys Phe Gln Met Tyr Glu Ser Thr Gly
 100 105 110
 Lys Val Leu Ser Val Lys Gly Asn Met Ile Ile Thr Asp Ala Phe Val

	115		120		125	
	Glu Pro Gly Asn Ser Gly Ser Ala Val Phe Asn Ser Lys Tyr Glu Val					
	130		135		140	
5	Val Gly Val His Phe Gly Gly Asn Gly Pro Gly Asn Lys Ser Thr Lys					
	145		150		155	160
10	Gly Tyr Gly Val Tyr Phe Ser Pro Glu Ile Lys Lys Phe Ile Ala Asp					
		165		170		175
	Asn Thr Asp Lys					
		180				
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	<211> 239					
	<212> PRT					
	<213> Staphylococcus aureus					
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	1	5		10		15
25	Thr Ser Ile Thr Gly Val Gly Thr Thr Met Val Glu Gly Ile Gln Gln					
		20		25		30
	Thr Ala Lys Ala Glu Asn Thr Val Lys Gln Ile Thr Asn Thr Asn Val					
		35		40		45
30	Ala Pro Tyr Ser Gly Val Thr Trp Met Gly Ala Gly Thr Gly Phe Val					
		50		55		60
35	Val Gly Asn His Thr Ile Ile Thr Asn Lys His Val Thr Tyr His Met					
		65		70		75
	Lys Val Gly Asp Glu Ile Lys Ala His Pro Asn Gly Phe Tyr Asn Asn					
		85		90		95
40	Gly Gly Gly Leu Tyr Lys Val Thr Lys Ile Val Asp Tyr Pro Gly Lys					
		100		105		110
	Glu Asp Ile Ala Val Val Gln Val Glu Glu Lys Ser Thr Gln Pro Lys					
		115		120		125
45	Gly Arg Lys Phe Lys Asp Phe Thr Ser Lys Phe Asn Ile Ala Ser Glu					
		130		135		140
50	Ala Lys Glu Asn Glu Pro Ile Ser Val Ile Gly Tyr Pro Asn Pro Asn					
		145		150		155
	Gly Asn Lys Leu Gln Met Tyr Glu Ser Thr Gly Lys Val Leu Ser Val					
		165		170		175
55	Asn Gly Asn Ile Val Ser Ser Asp Ala Ile Ile Gln Pro Gly Ser Ser					
		180		185		190
	Gly Ser Pro Ile Leu Asn Ser Lys His Glu Ala Ile Gly Val Ile Tyr					
		195		200		205
60	Ala Gly Asn Lys Pro Ser Gly Glu Ser Thr Arg Gly Phe Ala Val Tyr					
		210		215		220

Phe Ser Pro Glu Ile Lys Lys Phe Ile Ala Asp Asn Leu Asp Lys
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5 <210> 26
 <211> 470
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 <213> Staphylococcus aureus

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15 Glu Leu Ser Ser Tyr Trp Val Tyr Gln Asn Ile Asp Ile Lys Lys Glu
 20 25 30

Phe Lys Val Asn Gly Lys Arg Phe Lys Gln Val Asp Ser Tyr Asn Asp
 35 40 45

20 Asp Lys Asn Ser Asn Leu Asn Gly Ala Ala Asp Ile Lys Ile Tyr Glu
 50 55 60

Leu Leu Asp Asp Lys Ser Lys Pro Thr Gly Gln Gln Thr Ile Ile Tyr
 65 70 75 80

25 Gln Gly Thr Ser Asn Glu Ala Ile Asn Pro Asn Asn Pro Leu Lys Ser
 85 90 95

30 Ser Gly Phe Gly Asp Asp Trp Leu Gln Asn Ala Lys Leu Met Asn Asn
 100 105 110

Asp Asn Glu Ser Thr Asp Tyr Leu Lys Gln Thr Asp Gln Leu Ser Asn
 115 120 125

35 Gln Tyr Lys Ile Lys Leu Glu Asp Ala Asp Arg Leu Ser Asn Ser Asp
 130 135 140

Phe Leu Lys Lys Tyr Arg Met Glu Ser Ser Asn Phe Lys Asn Lys Thr
 145 150 155 160

40 Ile Val Ala Asp Gly Gly Asn Ser Glu Gly Gly Ala Gly Ala Lys Tyr
 165 170 175

45 Gln Gly Ala Lys His Pro Asn Glu Lys Val Val Ala Thr Asp Ser Ala
 180 185 190

Met Ile Pro Tyr Ala Ala Trp Gln Lys Phe Ala Arg Pro Arg Phe Asp
 195 200 205

50 Asn Met Ile Ser Phe Asn Ser Thr Asn Asp Leu Leu Thr Trp Leu Gln
 210 215 220

Asp Pro Phe Ile Lys Asp Met Pro Gly Lys Arg Val Asn Ile Asn Asp
 225 230 235 240

55 Gly Val Pro Arg Leu Asp Thr Leu Ile Asp Ser His Val Gly Tyr Lys
 245 250 255

60 Arg Lys Leu Asn Arg Lys Asp Asn Thr Tyr Asp Thr Val Pro Leu Ile
 260 265 270

Lys Ile Lys Ser Val Lys Asp Thr Glu Ile Lys Asn Gly Lys Lys Val
 275 280 285

Lys Lys Thr Ile Asn Ile Thr Leu Asp Met Asp Gly Arg Ile Pro Ile
 290 295 300
 5 Asn Val Trp Thr Gly Asp Ser Ile Ala Arg Ser Gly Arg Gly Thr Leu
 305 310 315 320
 Ile Lys Leu Asn Leu Glu Asn Leu Asp Ala Leu Ser Lys Leu Ile Thr
 325 330 335
 10 Gly Glu Thr Ser Gly Met Leu Ala Glu Cys Val Ile Phe Leu Asn Glu
 340 345 350
 Ser Phe Asn Ile Ser Glu Asn Glu Asn Lys Asn Phe Ala Asp Arg Lys
 355 360 365
 15 Lys Gln Leu Ser Glu Gly Phe Lys Asp Lys Ile Asn Leu Phe Gln Leu
 370 375 380
 Glu Glu Met Glu Arg Thr Leu Ile Ser Lys Ile Asn Ser Leu Glu Glu
 385 390 395 400
 Val Ala Asp Glu Thr Ile Glu Ser Ile Ser Ala Val Lys His Leu Leu
 405 410 415
 25 Pro Asp Phe Ala Leu Asp Ala Leu Lys Glu Arg Ile Asn Glu Leu Phe
 420 425 430
 Lys Gly Ile Lys Ser Phe Ile Glu Lys Val Tyr Asp Ser Ile Asp Asn
 435 440 445
 30 Glu Ile Leu Glu Ile Phe Lys Asn Ile Asp His Asp Phe Arg Asp Gly
 450 455 460
 35 Val Ser Glu Glu Met Met
 465 470
 40 <210> 27
 <211> 306
 <212> PRT
 <213> Staphylococcus aureus
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 45 Met Lys Lys Lys Asp Gly Thr Gln Gln Phe Tyr His Tyr Ala Ser Ser
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 Val Lys Pro Ala Arg Val Ile Phe Thr Asp Ser Lys Pro Glu Ile Glu
 20 25 30
 50 Leu Gly Leu Gln Ser Gly Gln Phe Trp Arg Lys Phe Glu Val Tyr Glu
 35 40 45
 Gly Asp Lys Lys Leu Pro Ile Lys Leu Val Ser Tyr Asp Thr Val Lys
 50 55 60
 Asp Tyr Ala Tyr Ile Arg Phe Ser Val Ser Asn Gly Thr Lys Ala Val
 65 70 75 80
 60 Lys Ile Val Ser Ser Thr His Phe Asn Asn Lys Glu Glu Lys Tyr Asp
 85 90 95
 Tyr Thr Leu Met Glu Phe Ala Gln Pro Ile Tyr Asn Ser Ala Asp Lys

	100	105	110
	Phe Lys Thr Glu Glu Asp Tyr Lys Ala Glu Lys Leu Leu Ala Pro Tyr		
	115	120	125
5	Lys Lys Ala Lys Thr Leu Glu Arg Gln Val Tyr Glu Leu Asn Lys Ile		
	130	135	140
10	Gln Asp Lys Leu Pro Glu Lys Leu Lys Ala Glu Tyr Lys Lys Lys Leu		
	145	150	155
	Glu Asp Thr Lys Lys Ala Leu Asp Glu Gln Val Lys Ser Ala Ile Thr		
	165	170	175
15	Glu Phe Gln Asn Val Gln Pro Thr Asn Glu Lys Met Thr Asp Leu Gln		
	180	185	190
	Asp Thr Lys Tyr Val Val Tyr Glu Ser Val Glu Asn Asn Glu Ser Met		
	195	200	205
20	Met Asp Thr Phe Val Lys His Pro Ile Lys Thr Gly Met Leu Asn Gly		
	210	215	220
25	Lys Lys Tyr Met Val Met Glu Thr Thr Asn Asp Asp Tyr Trp Lys Asp		
	225	230	235
	Phe Met Val Glu Gly Gln Arg Val Arg Thr Ile Ser Lys Asp Ala Lys		
	245	250	255
30	Asn Asn Thr Arg Thr Ile Ile Phe Pro Tyr Val Glu Gly Lys Thr Leu		
	260	265	270
	Tyr Asp Ala Ile Val Lys Val His Val Lys Thr Ile Asp Tyr Asp Gly		
	275	280	285
35	Gln Tyr His Val Arg Ile Val Asp Lys Glu Ala Phe Thr Lys Ala His		
	290	295	300
40	Thr Asp		
	305		
	<210> 28		
	<211> 2659		
45	<212> PRT		
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	<400> 28		
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	Asn Arg Ser Tyr Ala Arg Ala Ser Ala Asn Glu Ile Thr Ser Lys Thr		
	20	25	30
55	Val Ser Asn Val Ser Arg Thr Gly Asn Asn Ala Asn Val Thr Val Thr		
	35	40	45
	Val Thr Tyr Gln Asp Gly Thr Thr Ser Thr Val Thr Val Pro Val Lys		
	50	55	60
60	His Val Ile Pro Glu Ile Val Ala His Ser His Tyr Thr Val Gln Gly		
	65	70	75
			80

Gln Asp Phe Pro Ala Gly Asn Gly Ser Ser Ala Ser Asp Tyr Phe Lys
 85 90 95
 5 Leu Ser Asn Gly Ser Asp Ile Ala Asp Ala Thr Ile Thr Trp Val Ser
 100 105 110
 Gly Gln Ala Pro Asn Lys Asp Asn Thr Arg Ile Gly Glu Asp Ile Thr
 115 120 125
 10 Val Thr Ala His Ile Leu Ile Asp Gly Glu Thr Thr Pro Ile Thr Lys
 130 135 140
 Thr Ala Thr Tyr Lys Val Val Arg Thr Val Pro Lys His Val Phe Glu
 145 150 155 160
 15 Thr Ala Arg Gly Val Leu Tyr Pro Gly Val Ser Asp Met Tyr Asp Ala
 165 170 175
 Lys Gln Tyr Val Lys Pro Val Asn Asn Ser Trp Ser Thr Asn Ala Gln
 180 185 190
 His Met Asn Phe Gln Phe Val Gly Thr Tyr Gly Pro Asn Lys Asp Val
 195 200 205
 25 Val Gly Ile Ser Thr Arg Leu Ile Arg Val Thr Tyr Asp Asn Arg Gln
 210 215 220
 Thr Glu Asp Leu Thr Ile Leu Ser Lys Val Lys Pro Asp Pro Pro Arg
 225 230 235 240
 30 Ile Asp Ala Asn Ser Val Thr Tyr Lys Ala Gly Leu Thr Asn Gln Glu
 245 250 255
 Ile Lys Val Asn Asn Val Leu Asn Asn Ser Ser Val Lys Leu Phe Lys
 260 265 270
 Ala Asp Asn Thr Pro Leu Asn Val Thr Asn Ile Thr His Gly Ser Gly
 275 280 285
 40 Phe Ser Ser Val Val Thr Val Ser Asp Ala Leu Pro Asn Gly Gly Ile
 290 295 300
 Lys Ala Lys Ser Ser Ile Ser Met Asn Asn Val Thr Tyr Thr Thr Gln
 305 310 315 320
 45 Asp Glu His Gly Gln Val Val Thr Val Thr Arg Asn Glu Ser Val Asp
 325 330 335
 Ser Asn Asp Ser Ala Thr Val Thr Val Thr Pro Gln Leu Gln Ala Thr
 340 345 350
 Thr Glu Gly Ala Val Phe Ile Lys Gly Gly Asp Gly Phe Asp Phe Gly
 355 360 365
 55 His Val Glu Arg Phe Ile Gln Asn Pro Pro His Gly Ala Thr Val Ala
 370 375 380
 Trp His Asp Ser Pro Asp Thr Trp Lys Asn Thr Val Gly Asn Thr His
 385 390 395 400
 60 Lys Thr Ala Val Val Thr Leu Pro Asn Gly Gln Gly Thr Arg Asn Val
 405 410 415

	Glu	Val	Pro	Val	Lys	Val	Tyr	Pro	Val	Ala	Asn	Ala	Lys	Ala	Pro	Ser	
				420					425					430			
5	Arg	Asp	Val	Lys	Gly	Gln	Asn	Leu	Thr	Asn	Gly	Thr	Asp	Ala	Met	Asn	
			435					440					445				
	Tyr	Ile	Thr	Phe	Asp	Pro	Asn	Thr	Asn	Thr	Asn	Gly	Ile	Thr	Ala	Ala	
		450					455					460					
10	Trp	Ala	Asn	Arg	Gln	Gln	Pro	Asn	Asn	Gln	Gln	Ala	Gly	Val	Gln	His	
	465					470					475					480	
	Leu	Asn	Val	Asp	Val	Thr	Tyr	Pro	Gly	Ile	Ser	Ala	Ala	Lys	Arg	Val	
					485					490					495		
15	Pro	Val	Thr	Val	Asn	Val	Tyr	Gln	Phe	Glu	Phe	Pro	Gln	Thr	Thr	Tyr	
				500					505					510			
20	Thr	Thr	Thr	Val	Gly	Gly	Thr	Leu	Ala	Ser	Gly	Thr	Gln	Ala	Ser	Gly	
			515					520					525				
	Tyr	Ala	His	Met	Gln	Asn	Ala	Thr	Gly	Leu	Pro	Thr	Asp	Gly	Phe	Thr	
		530					535					540					
25	Tyr	Lys	Trp	Asn	Arg	Asp	Thr	Thr	Gly	Thr	Asn	Asp	Ala	Asn	Trp	Ser	
	545					550					555					560	
	Ala	Met	Asn	Lys	Pro	Asn	Val	Ala	Lys	Val	Val	Asn	Ala	Lys	Tyr	Asp	
					565					570					575		
30	Val	Ile	Tyr	Asn	Gly	His	Thr	Phe	Ala	Thr	Ser	Leu	Pro	Ala	Lys	Phe	
				580					585					590			
	Val	Val	Lys	Asp	Val	Gln	Pro	Ala	Lys	Pro	Thr	Val	Thr	Glu	Thr	Ala	
35			595					600					605				
	Ala	Gly	Ala	Ile	Thr	Ile	Ala	Pro	Gly	Ala	Asn	Gln	Thr	Val	Asn	Thr	
		610					615					620					
40	His	Ala	Gly	Asn	Val	Thr	Thr	Tyr	Ala	Asp	Lys	Leu	Val	Ile	Lys	Arg	
	625					630					635					640	
	Asn	Gly	Asn	Val	Val	Thr	Thr	Phe	Thr	Arg	Arg	Asn	Asn	Thr	Ser	Pro	
					645					650					655		
45	Trp	Val	Lys	Glu	Ala	Ser	Ala	Ala	Thr	Val	Ala	Gly	Ile	Ala	Gly	Thr	
				660					665					670			
	Asn	Asn	Gly	Ile	Thr	Val	Ala	Ala	Gly	Thr	Phe	Asn	Pro	Ala	Asp	Thr	
50			675					680					685				
	Ile	Gln	Val	Val	Ala	Thr	Gln	Gly	Ser	Gly	Glu	Thr	Val	Ser	Asp	Glu	
		690					695					700					
55	Gln	Arg	Ser	Asp	Asp	Phe	Thr	Val	Val	Ala	Pro	Gln	Pro	Asn	Gln	Ala	
	705					710					715					720	
	Thr	Thr	Lys	Ile	Trp	Gln	Asn	Gly	His	Ile	Asp	Ile	Thr	Pro	Asn	Asn	
					725					730					735		
60	Pro	Ser	Gly	His	Leu	Ile	Asn	Pro	Thr	Gln	Ala	Met	Asp	Ile	Ala	Tyr	
				740					745					750			

	Thr	Glu	Lys	Val	Gly	Asn	Gly	Ala	Glu	His	Ser	Lys	Thr	Ile	Asn	Val	
			755					760					765				
5	Val	Arg	Gly	Gln	Asn	Asn	Gln	Trp	Thr	Ile	Ala	Asn	Lys	Pro	Asp	Tyr	
		770					775					780					
	Val	Thr	Leu	Asp	Ala	Gln	Thr	Gly	Lys	Val	Thr	Phe	Asn	Ala	Asn	Thr	
	785					790					795					800	
10	Ile	Lys	Pro	Asn	Ser	Ser	Ile	Thr	Ile	Thr	Pro	Lys	Ala	Gly	Thr	Gly	
					805					810					815		
	His	Ser	Val	Ser	Ser	Asn	Pro	Ser	Thr	Leu	Thr	Ala	Pro	Ala	Ala	His	
15				820					825					830			
	Thr	Val	Asn	Thr	Thr	Glu	Ile	Val	Lys	Asp	Tyr	Gly	Ser	Asn	Val	Thr	
			835					840					845				
20	Ala	Ala	Glu	Ile	Asn	Asn	Ala	Val	Gln	Val	Ala	Asn	Lys	Arg	Thr	Ala	
		850					855					860					
	Thr	Ile	Lys	Asn	Gly	Thr	Ala	Met	Pro	Thr	Asn	Leu	Ala	Gly	Gly	Ser	
	865					870					875					880	
25	Thr	Thr	Thr	Ile	Pro	Val	Thr	Val	Thr	Tyr	Asn	Asp	Gly	Ser	Thr	Glu	
				885						890					895		
	Glu	Val	Gln	Glu	Ser	Ile	Phe	Thr	Lys	Ala	Asp	Lys	Arg	Glu	Leu	Ile	
30				900					905					910			
	Thr	Ala	Lys	Asn	His	Leu	Asp	Asp	Pro	Val	Ser	Thr	Glu	Gly	Lys	Lys	
		915						920					925				
35	Pro	Gly	Thr	Ile	Thr	Gln	Tyr	Asn	Asn	Ala	Met	His	Asn	Ala	Gln	Gln	
		930					935					940					
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/02685

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C12N15/31 C12N15/63 G01N33/68 C07K14/31 A61K39/085
 C07K16/12 C12N5/12 A61K39/40

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C12N G01N C07K A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, EMBL, WPI Data, BIOSIS

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	ARIFUR RAHMAN ET AL.: "Gamma-Hemolysin genes in the same family with LukF and lukS genes in methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus" BIOSCIENCE BIOTECHNOLOGY BIOCHEMISTRY., vol. 57, no. 7, 1993, pages 1234-1236, XP002177747 TOKYO JP the whole document	1-9, 18-48
A	WO 99 50418 A (NEUTEC PHARMA PLC) 7 October 1999 (1999-10-07) the whole document	1-9, 18-49

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

18 September 2001

Date of mailing of the international search report

19. 11. 2001

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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MONTERO LOPEZ B.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/GB 01/02685

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Although claims 26-32 are directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Partially 1-9, 18-49

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/GB 01/02685

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: Partially 1-9, 18-49

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

2. Claims: Partially 1-9, 18-49

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:2, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

3. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:3, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

4. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:4, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/GB 01/02685

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

5. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:5, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

6. Claims: Partially 1-9, 18-48

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:6, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

7. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:7, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

8. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:8, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

9. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/GB 01/02685

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

SEQ ID NO:9, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

10. Claims: Partially 1-9, 18-48

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:10, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

11. Claims: Partially 1-9, 18-48

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:11, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

12. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:12, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

13. Claims: Partially 1-9, 19-46

Staphylococcus aureus antigen encoded by a DNA sequence of SEQ ID NO:13, DNA sequence and variants thereof; vectors and host cells comprising the same and their use for the production of the polypeptide; vaccine comprising the

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

antigen and its use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigen and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament; use of the polypeptides for preparing a hybridoma cell-line.

14. Claims: 10-17, and partially 24-46

Method to identify antigenic polypeptides by transfecting a pathogenic organism gene library into a host cell and contacting the expressed polypeptides with autologous antisera from an animal infected with the pathogenic organism; polypeptides so obtained, vaccines comprising the antigenic polypeptides and use in immunisation; antibodies directed to the antigenic polypeptides and vectors and hybridoma cells for their production; use of the antibodies for the manufacture of a medicament.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 01/02685

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
WO 9950418	A	07-10-1999	AU 3156699 A	18-10-1999
			EP 1068328 A1	17-01-2001
			WO 9950418 A1	07-10-1999
